# Frequently Asked Questions

about Juvenile Justice

2001 Annual Report

**Harris County Juvenile Probation Department** 

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# Mission Statement

The Harris County Juvenile Probation Department is committed to the protection of the public and provision of services to youth referred for violations of the law. As mandated in the Texas Juvenile Justice Code, the department provides services including treatment, training, rehabilitation and incarceration while emphasizing responsibility and accountability of both parent and child for the child's conduct and offering the most opportunities for those youth who demonstrate the greatest potential for positive change.



To the Citizens of Harris County

Juvenile crime rates in our community have dropped to the lowest level since records were first kept over 40 years ago. Since 1994, serious offenses by juveniles have fallen over 50%.

This good news for the children and families of our community can be attributed to many factors. The Juvenile Courts have taken a no-nonsense approach toward juvenile offenders. Answering public outcry for safer neighborhoods and schools, they put to use tough new state laws emphasizing accountability and consequences for unacceptable behavior.

The Juvenile Probation Department and its officers have stepped in with an innovative and creative approach to break the cycle of juvenile violence. Given more staff to do its work, the department is now able to put the safety of the community first and has expanded all programs of supervision. Aftercare supervision for all juveniles released from county or private placements makes sure old habits and influences don't return. Intensive supervision is available for those able to return to the community to serve their probationary period. The department also provides in-home supervision for girls and special supervision for juveniles with mental health problems.

Parents and extended families, churches and civic organizations have stepped up to the plate, recognizing the need for more involvement with children. Harris County's Community and Juvenile Justice Department, after-school, and early intervention programs help reach children before they get into serious trouble.

Working together, we put kids back on the right path. Together, we are making a tremendous difference in family life in Harris County.

Robert Eckels County Judge



From the Executive Director

in 2001, we faced trauma locally during the flood and nationally in September as we watched with disbelief as the World Trade Center collapsed in New York City. As grim news unfolded around us, the staff of the fluvenile Probation Department worked even harder. During the June flood, employees stayed extra hours and administrators filled in to make sure all responsibilities were met and both the clients and community were safe. Priorities were that facilities must have sufficient staff and residents must be cared for and fed. Seeping the department running smoothly and then stepping up to help a neighbor or colleague recover from flood damage brought good feelings to many.

Beginning September 11 and continuing afterward, we have faced grim news and threats which seem inreal. Many of us now realize that each day is an opportunity we may not have again. Guiding a wayward uvenile and his or her family into a positive program takes on new meaning. Having the ability to offer psychiatric treatment to troubled youth and beginning a special program for children with mental illness were big steps forward in 2001, truly an opportunity to help those who need it most.

This year, in addition to statistics, programs and highlights, we decided to answer those Frequently Asked Questions, the FAQs that we hear over and over. If we missed any of those questions, we invite you to call us.

Elmer Bailey, Jr.
Executive Director

# Frequently Asked Questions



Jake ran away from home. He was picked up by the police and taken to the Chimney Rock Center for the TRIAD program.

# FAQ: What is the TRIAD program?

Counseling, crisis intervention, screening and assessment, emergency shelters and referrals are provided by the TRIAD program. The Juvenile Probation Department, Harris County Children's Protective Services and the Mental Health and Mental Retardation Authority contribute staff and other resources to TRIAD. This free service is available to youth in crisis and to parents who want to prevent their child from breaking the law.

Amy was caught shoplifting and her supervision lasted six months.

# FAQ: What is Deferred Prosecution and who is sent to the program?

Deferred Prosecution is either a three-month or six-month program of supervision that can be offered to divert juveniles from regular probation. The three-month program supervises children referred for Contempt of Court and other minor offenses.

Amy and her parents signed a six-month Deferred Prosecution contract. She completed a shoplifting program and other requirements. Because she finished Deferred Prosecution successfully, Amy's record does not show that she has a court-ordered adjudication.



Al skipped school one day and stole a car. After a few hours, a law enforcement officer stopped him. Al was placed in handcuffs and taken to the Juvenile Detention Center. He had been on probation before and his mother admitted she had difficulty supervising him. Al was allowed

to go home, but a Pre-adjudication Team officer was assigned to closely supervise him until his court date.

# FAQ: What is Pre-adjudication Team (PAT) supervision?

PAT officers provide intensive supervision for juveniles who are allowed to return home to wait for their court date. This program makes sure beds for serious offenders are available in the Juvenile Detention Center and saves associated costs.



The District Attorney's office filed a very serious charge against Steve. He was in a fight, tried to run from a police officer and was found with a gun. Steve was held overnight in the Juvenile Detention Center and given a probable cause hearing. The judge decided he might be a danger to the

community, so he was ordered to stay in the Detention Center until his court date.

# FAQ: How long do juveniles stay in detention and what happens to them there?

The length of time a juvenile stays in detention depends on how quickly the case moves in court and whether or not testing and evaluation is required prior to court. It could be a few days or a few weeks.

Offenders held in the Juvenile Detention Center receive physical and psychological assessments and medical care. Detention hearings are held every ten days to re-evaluate the case.

Al's court date arrived and he went to the District Court in the Family Law Center. A decision was made to send him back home on probation. He would need to attend school and educational workshops while under the watchful eye of a probation officer to check on his compliance. Al would be required to perform community service restitution hours.

# FAQ: What is the significance of Community Service Restitution and why is it needed?

Community Service Restitution is a work program offering a way for a juvenile to repay the community and to be accountable for an offense.

The court or a juvenile probation officer sets the number of hours that a juvenile must work. The Community Service Restitution staff arranges work sites and also allows youth to suggest their own sites such as churches or other public institutions.



The District Attorney's office filed a serious charge against Jill but her parents did not know where to check on the status of her case.

# FAQ: How do parents know the status of their child's case?

Parents are provided with information in order to check on the status of a child. The Intake Unit of the department accepts telephone calls and conducts business 24 hours a day. (713-512-4100) Juvenile Probation Officer Allen and a Harris County Deputy Sheriff are often seen riding together in a patrol car. Other probation officers sometimes accompany Houston Police Department officers.

# FAQ: Do juvenile probation and law enforcement officers work together?

The department and law enforcement agencies work together closely in three major programs.

The Absconders Locator program finds youth who fail to appear in court or who have left a court-ordered placement facility without permission.

The Gang Supervision Caseload program focuses on the sharing of information about gang members. Information about juvenile offenders is made available to law enforcement officers whose assistance is often needed in the community to apprehend juveniles.

Project Spotlight operating in the Alief area consists of three teams of juvenile, adult and Harris County Sheriff's Department officers working together to prevent recidivism of offenders assigned by the courts.



Janua has not been following the rules imposed on her by the court.

FAQ: How long is the probationary period and what happens if a juvenile doesn't follow the court rules?

A delinquent juvenile may be placed on probation for a few months or a few years until he or she is 18 years of age. If rules of probation are broken and violations are filed, the court might place the child into one of the county's institutions or a private placement instead of a juvenile staying at home.

What assistance does Joey get while in the juvenile justice system?

FAQ: Does the Juvenile Probation Department really help kids or just lock them up?

Juvenile Probation offers many opportunities for juveniles to learn how to make good decisions. Juveniles and their parents attend a variety of workshops, presentations and counseling as part of the probationary experience.



When Michael appeared in court for a theft, his PAT officer reported that he had not attended school regularly and was not always available at home. The judge was concerned about Michael's lack of respect in the courtroom and about the safety of the community if he went home on probation. He

sent Michael to the Burnett-Bayland Reception Center for evaluation recommending a trip to the juvenile Delta Boot Camp in the future.

# FAQ: Can parents send children who are not on probation to the Delta Boot Camp?

Only juveniles on court-ordered probation can be sent to the Delta Boot Camp in west Harris County. Delinquent girls are sometimes placed at juvenile boot camps in other counties.

Al's father is out of work which puts added pressures on the family to buy food, clothing, gasoline and pay housing costs.

# FAQ: Does the department assist families that need help?

The Department refers a number of juvenile offenders and their families to the Youth Advocate Program of Harris County or H-CAP. This program uses a "wraparound approach" to strengthen the family by finding resources and building a network of help in the community where the family lives. H-CAP staff does whatever is needed to assist the family.



Tina is on probation for theft, has a steady boyfriend and lives at home.

# AQ: What programs does the Juvenile Probation Department have for girls?

The In-home Services program for girls allows some female probationers to remain at home with 24-hour sutervision instead of going to a more costly residential facility.

Clients may also participate in the "Baby, Think It Over" program which provides computerized infant imulators given by Children's Protective Services. The purpose of the program is to give parenting information and perhaps deter teenage pregnancy. Girls can be placed in private residential placements depending on the treatment needed.



Ed is on probation at home, but his probation officer believes he would make better progress if he were removed from the neighborhood environment for a few months.

# FAQ: What residential placement facilities operated by Harris County are available for young men?

The Invenile Probation Department has four residential placement facilities for males. Private placements can also be considered

The Burnett-Bayland Reception Center (BBRC) located on Chimney Rock offers complete assessment as well as programs for youth with special needs including drug and sex offender treatment.

Youth who do not require secure confinement can be placed at the Burnett-Bayland Home (BBH), also on Chimney Rock, which is community-based and offers programs to help young men transition back home.

The Delta Boot Camp near Katy features a residential correctional program for adjudicated males, ages 14 to 16, who have been determined by the court to need a discipline-oriented program.

The Harris County Youth Village lakefront campus located in the Clear Lake area provides educational services as well as drug education and therapy for older teens and offers vocational training in plumbing, carpentry, tiling, car repair and other useful trades.



Diane's father reported his car had been stolen. The police picked up Diane who had taken the car without permission and brought her to the Juvenile Detention Center. Her father wonders about the cost of the attorney.

# FAQ: If a juvenile steals her father's car, why does the parent have to hire attorneys to defend his child?

In Texas, parents are legally responsible for their minor children until the age of 17. Once charges are filed, the state of Texas proceeds with the case and the parent cannot drop the charges. If a parent is unable to pay for an attorney, one is appointed without cost.

More detailed information for each FAO is available starting on page 14.

# 2001 Highlights

Following Tropical Storm Allison's visit in June, many staff, supervisors and administrators worked extra hours to make sure all youth in the institutions were safe. Later, as staff members reported damage to their own homes, cars and homes of loved ones, a drive began for food, clothing and money to help them.

Serving as co-chairs for the 2001 United Way Fund Drive, Marilyn Broussard-Webb and Dee Anne Deen, led the department raising \$11,248 more than any other county agency. County Judge Robert Eckels honored the department at his Volunteer Recognition Night at the Astrodome.

The following staff members were selected by their colleagues for awards at the General Staff meeting in October: John Sloan, Administrator of the Year; Jerry Lewis, Institutional Officer; Rosa Escobar, Support Services and Nelson Morgan, Juvenile Probation Officer of the Year.

Assistant District Attorney Beverly Malazzo was appointed by the Harris County Juvenile Board to serve as referce at the Juvenile Detention Center replacing retiring Judge Veronica Morgan-Price effective December 1. Referee Malazzo served for nine years as an Assistant District Attorney with six years in the 313th District Court.

Marilyn Broussard-Webb, former Institutional Liaison, and Roslyn Beaty, Personnel Administrator, exchanged positions. Both administrators see the move as an opportunity to learn more about the operation of the department and are putting their individual talents to work in their new divisions. Other major moves include Genny Walls to Administrative Services and Alice Sweeney-Herd assuming new duties in Field Services Administration.

The Pre-Adjudication Team moved to Intake with Dennis Englade as Supervisor. The three-month Deferred Prosecution Unit with its Junior League volunteers is assigned to Intake. The six-month Deferred Prosecution program supervised by Administrator John Sloan moved to Field Services.

Congratulations and good luck to Linda Crocker who retired as Superintendent of Burnett-Bayland Home after 27 years with the department. John Kandeh, her long-time assistant, is now superintendent. Richard Edwards is assistant superintendent at BBH with Miriam Quinones as Casework Supervisor and Kim Goins, Shift Supervisor. At Burnett-Bayland Reception Center, Melissa Watson became the Assessment Supervisor; Kathryn Schuller, Casework Supervisor; Anthony Wilborn, Unit Supervisor; and Glen Kelso, Casework JPO. Other promotions are Unit Supervisor Adam Uresti at the Youth Village; Assistant Superintendent David Hetzel at the Juvenile Detention Center and Unit Supervisors Purvis Hunt and Leonard Llorens also at the Juvenile Detention Center.

Dr. Diana Quintana is the department's Mental Health Administrator and Senior Psychologist. Commissioners

Court funded 16 beds which are available at the Harris County Psychiatric Center for juveniles who arrive at the Juvenile

Detention Center needing mental health treatment.

CUPS 7 is the home of the new Mental Health Services and Supervision Unit (MHSS) funded by Texas Juvenile Probation Commission (TJPC) and the Texas Council on the Mentally Impaired. Funding provides for four teams consisting of a juvenile probation officer and a mental health professional. In addition, a psychiatrist is assigned to the unit for crisis intervention and medication management.

Longtime BBH volunteer coach Paul Banister and his wife, Mary, were honored at a luncheon attended by their family, Commissioner Jerry Eversole and several judges. Coach Banister has developed basketball teams and players at BBH for ten years. His foundation has enabled several former residents to attend college.

Home Depot staff donated a bench, trees, birdbath and pavestones to landscape the entrance of the Delta Boot Camp. Their staff installed a drainage system.

The Texas State Legislature voted \$3000 salary increases for certified Juvenile Probation Officers (JPOs) and \$1500 for Institutional Officers which became effective in September.

The Juvenile Detention Center was re-accredited by the American Correctional Association. The Texas Juvenile Probation Commission gave a 98.3% approval rating following their June audit of the Juvenile Detention Center. The Delta Boot Camp received the comment "the best we have seen."

# Harris County Commissioners' Court

The Harris County Commissioners' Court is a five member elected body responsible for the general administration of county business. As a county agency, the Juvenile Probation Department receives most of its annual budget from the Commissioners' Court. In 2001, \$44,220,128 was allocated for staff salaries, direct client services, private placements, residential services and general operating expenses.

The Commissioners' Court also determines county personnel regulations and sets operational guidelines followed by the Department. Commissioners' Court support enables the Juvenile Probation Department to provide services to thousands of troubled youth and their families in the community each year.

The commissioners are as follows:

Robert Eckels	El Franco Lee	Jim Fonteno	Steve Radack	Jerry Eversole
Harris County	Commissioner	Commissioner	Commissioner	Commissioner
Judge	Precinct One	Precinct Two	Precinct Three	Precinct Four

# Harris County Juvenile Board

The Harris County Juvenile Board is the governing body of the Juvenile Probation Department. As mandated by state statute, the Juvenile Board monitors all of the department's programs, institutional services and residential placement facilities. The board also sets administrative policies and approves the department's annual budget prior to submission to the Commissioners' Court.

The members of the Juvenile Board are as follows:

Judge Robert Eckels	Judge Pat Shelton	Judge Mary Craft	Judge Kent Ellis
County Judge	313th District Court	314th District Court	315th District Court
Chairman	Program	Secretary	Vice Chairman
		Budget and Finance	Program
Judge Belinda Hill	Judge Georgia Dempster	Program	Budget and Finance
230th District Court	308th District Court	Tri-Board	Juvenile Probation
	Budget and Finance		Liaison and Personnel
			Tri-Board
Judge Bruce Oakley	Justice of the Peace Tony	Polumbo	
234th District Court	Precinct 3, Place 2		

# **Associate Judges**

Robert Molder	David Longoria	Sherry Van Pelt	Beverly Malazzo
313th District Court	314th District Court	315th District Court	Juvenile Detention Center

# **Juvenile Board Advisory Committee**

The Advisory Committee brings together representatives of the medical, educational and logal community who have a clear understanding of the juvenile offender population. They make recommendations and provide consultation whenever called upon.

The committee includes the following:

Lorraine Cervantes, Chairperson, Elizabeth Godwin, Iris Locp, Ernest McMillan, Connie Clancy, Dr. Regina Hicks, Beverly Malazzo, Dr. Will Risser and Dr. Shirley Rose.

# **Administrative Staff**

Executive Director, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer	Elmer Bailey, Jr.
Administrative Services	
Deputy Director of Administrative Services	Harvey Hetzel
Administrator of Technology and Systems Development	Pam Boveland
Administrator of Special Projects and Custodian of Records	Genevieve Walls
Financial Services	
Deputy Director of Financial Services	John Sukols
Assistant Budget Officer	Jerome Booker
Human Resources	
Deputy Director of Human Resources	la Ann Janes Durbeldes
Administrator of Training	Jo Ann Jones-Burbridge Keith Branch
Administrator of Personnel	Marilyn Broussard-Webb
Administrator of Information Resources	Carole Allen
	Carole Allen
Field Services	
Deputy Director of Field Services	M. Julia Ramirez
Administrator, Field Services Operations	Luann McCoy
Administrator, Field Services Operations	Alice Sweeney-Herd
Administrator, CUPS 0 *	John Sloan
Administrator, CUPS 1	Diana Johnson
Administrator, CUPS 2	lzer Billings
Administrator, CUPS 3	Susan Bonich
Administrator, CUPS 4	Cheryl Conrad
Administrator, CUPS 5	James Redic
Administrator, CUPS 6	Andrea Rice
Administrator, CUPS 7	Henry Gonzales
Administrator, CUPS 8	Nate Sumbry
*Community Unit Probation Services (CUPS)	
Institutions	
Deputy Director of Institutions	William H. Thompson
Administrator of Institutions	Roslyn Beaty
Superintendent, Juvenile Detention Center	Robert Husbands
Assistant Superintendent	Joe Santana
Superintendent, Burnett-Bayland Reception Center	Terry Snow
Assistant Superintendent	Donald Clemons
Superintendent, Burnett-Bayland Home ,	John Kandeh
Assistant Superintendent	Richard Edwards
Superintendent, Delta Boot Camp	Larry Smith
Assistant Superintendent	Bert Carter
Superintendent, Harris County Youth Village	Ronald Niksich
Assistant Superintendent	Loretta Tigner
Intake Court Services	
Deputy Director of Intake Court Services	Bernard Hunter
Administrator of Intake Screening	Tom Brooks
Administrator, PAT/Deferred Prosecution	Dennis Englade
Agency Representative, 313th Court	Dena Fisher
Administrator, 314th Court	Terri McGee
Administrator, 315th Court	Ron Perren
Administrator, Placement and Related Services	Debbie Williams
	AN ARMANDAY CHOICE STATES

# **Organizational Chart**

Juvenile Board

Executive Director/Chief Juvenile Probation Officer

Elmer Bailey, Jr.

inancial Services

John Sukols

Budget

56,000,550

Maintenance

Purchasing

**Supportive Services** 

Intake Court Services

Administrative Services

Bernard Hunter

Harvey Hetzel

Intake Screening

Data Control Systems

Pre-adjudication Team

Grants and Alternative Funding

Deferred Prosecution-

Information Systems

3 months

Legal Issues

313th District Court

Liaison to Commissioners' Court and other agencies

314th District Court

Research

315th District Court
Placement Services

Technology Resources

TRIAD

Victims Rights

**Human Resources** 

Institutions

William H. Thompson

West Dallas Detention Center

Westside Detention Center

**Burnett-Bayland Home** 

Delta Boot Camp

Burnett-Bayland Reception Center

Harris County Youth Village

Jo Ann Jones-Burbridge

Accreditation

Payroll

Personnel

Information Resources

Training

Field Services

M. Julia Ramirez

Community Unit Probation Service (CUPS)

CUPS 0 - Deferred Prosecution 6 Months

CUPS 1 - Southeast

CUPS 2 - Northeast

CUPS 3 - Pasadena

CUPS 4 - Northwest

CUPS 5 - Southwest

CUPS 6 - Intensive Supervision Countywide

CUPS 7 - Aftercare Intensive Supervision Countywide

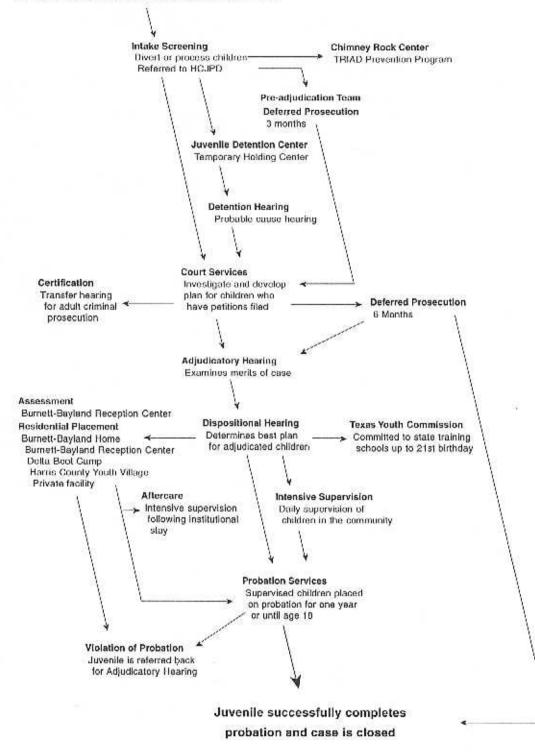
**CUPS 8 - West Houston** 

Community Service Restitution Monetary Restitution

Project Spotlight
Mental Health Services and Supervision
In-home Supervision for Girls
Safe Schools/Healthy Student Initiative

# Case Flow Chart

# Juvenile is referred to Harris County Juvenile Probation Department



# Triad Prevention Program

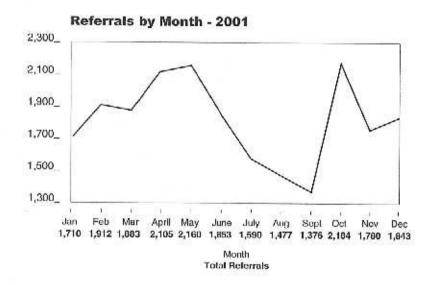
The Chimney Rock Center (CRC) is a 24-hour intake center for youth, ages 10 to 16, who are picked up for status offenses such as runaway, truancy and curfew or Class C Misdemeanors (theft, assault, disorderly conduct or public intoxication) and those who are in need of supervision. (These offenses are classified by Juvenile Probation as Progressive Sanction Level I cases. If a child repeatedly commits offenses, Progressive Sanction guidelines recommend increased penalties and supervision.) At CRC, services include screening and assessment, crisis intervention, counseling, emergency shelter, referrals and follow-up. The Juvenile Probation Department, Harris County Children's Protective Services (CPS) and the Mental Health and Mental Retardation Authority (MHMRA) are partners in the TRIAD Prevention Program with the TRIAD executive director reporting to CPS. In 2001, 3,942 juveniles who had run away, broken curfew, skipped school or committed Class C misdemeanors such as alcohol violations received services at CRC and another 2,953 juveniles were assisted by the staff. Many parents consult the TRIAD staff to find ways to prevent their child from breaking the law.

In addition to Intake services, the TRIAD Prevention Program coordinates the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services STAR (Services to At-Risk youth program), houses case managers to serve as liaisons in Justice of the Peace courts, runs the Saturday Truancy Learning Camp Program and staffs an intensive home-based case management program for youth with mental health issues.

# Intake Court Services Division

# Intake Screening

Harris County law enforcement officers may take a juvenile to one of two 24-hour intake units of the Juvenile Probation Department which are located at CRC and the Juvenile Detention Center. Intake Screening is responsible for assessing immediate circumstances and deciding if the youth is to be detained or released. When a youth is thought to present a threat to self or to the community or is likely to run away and not return for a court appearance, the youth will be held in detention. The goal of Progressive Sanction Guidelines used by the department is to increase penalties and supervision if a child repeatedly commits offenses. Level 1 offenses such as truancy, runaway and curfew violations and Class C misdemeanors such as alcohol violations are handled by CRC.



# Deferred Prosecution (three-month program)

The Juvenile Division of the District Attorney's office reviews Progressive Sanction Level II cases such as Contempt of Court cases referred by Justice of the Peace Courts. They return some cases to the Juvenile Probation Department for counseling and follow-up by both juvenile probation officers (JPOs) and highly trained volunteers from the Junior League of Houston. Last year, these volunteers worked with 325 cases. Families are asked to sign a three-month contract under which they agree to supervision by the department as an alternative to a formal court hearing. The three-month Deferred Prosecution program also assists the six-month Deferred Prosecution program by monitoring a select number of juveniles cases referred for that program. These youth receive counseling, attend monthly workshops, participate in the Community Service Restitution program and are required to report regularly on their progress. They are often referred to other agencies for additional assistance.

# Deferred Prosecution (six-month program)

The court offers Deferred Prosecution to juveniles who are younger, non-violent offenders. The program guides them through six months of specialized programs, intensive counseling and supervision aimed at avoiding adjudication and diverting them from the juvenile justice system. Parent-training workshops, AIDS education and peer pressure programs are designed to teach juveniles to act responsibly. Drug-dependent youth are referred for therapy and education. A Legal Awareness Workshop (LAW) is presented by a judge, attorney, police officer and other professionals. Upon successful completion of their Deferred Prosecution contract, the case can be dismissed. In 2001, an average of 892 juveniles participated in the Deferred Prosecution program each month.

# **Court Services**

Once the District Attorney's office has filed a petition, the court services staff prepares a comprehensive profile of the juvenile and the case. This detailed report may be used with other information to aid the judge in determining a suitable disposition by including details about the youth's physical and emotional status as well as school and family circumstances. If a juvenile is found to have engaged in delinquent conduct, he or she may be allowed to live at home under stringent rules of probation, placed in a residential facility, county institution or committed to the Texas Youth Commission (TYC).

# Pre-adjudication Team

The Pre-adjudication Team (PAT) provides intensive supervision to juvenile offenders who can be released from detention to await their court date. This team ensures that the Juvenile Detention Center has beds available for serious offenders who must be detained. Experienced officers work dawn-to-dark hours every day to monitor juveniles who are awaiting court. During 2001, the team handled over 584 cases with considerable savings in bed space and associated care in the Juvenile Detention Center.

# Placement Services

When a juvenile must be removed from the home, the Placement Staffing Committee considers all available alternatives. Information is supplied by the JPO as well as a psychological and psychiatric evaluation by the MHMRA foreasic staff. Placement options are recommended to be included in the court report for the judge's consideration. Another special unit reviews all cases for possible federal reimbursement from Title IV-E funds. In 2001, a total of \$768,577 was requested for reimbursement from the federal government.

Placement Statistics, 2001		Referrals by \$ 2001	School	Distric	t and	Ethni	city,
Residential Treatment Centers			Afr.Amer	Hispanic	White	Other	Total
Aware, Inc.	7	Aldine	504	377	185	6	1.072
Bokenkamp	8	Alief	495	328	111	44	978
Campbell Griffin Center	40	Channelview	24	47	58	1	130
Center for Success and Independence	21	Clear Creek	35	26	170	11	242
Colorado County Boot Camp	68	Crosby	12	3	27	0	42
Daystar Residential, Inc.	19	Cypress-Fairbanks	136	193	573	33	935
Depelchin Children's Center	2	Deer Park	7	56	94	1	158
Good Shepherd Residential	16	Galena Park	82	181	101	2	366
Gulf Coast Trades Center	48	Goose Creek	146	127	158	1	432
Hope Center for Youth	1	Houston	1,972	1,533	500	30	4,035
House of Aces	18	Huffman	5	2	15	0	22
House that Lovelace Built	2	Humble	30	19	176	2	227
Incentives Boys Ranch	8	Katy	32	60	233	4	329
Jaycee's Children's Center	11	Klein	104	67	270	. 14	455
Kerr County Juvenile Detention	36	La Porte	9	26	78	O	113
Krause Center	57	North Forest	296	47	9	0	352
McDuffies Adolescent Center	5	Pasadena	62	311	283	8	664
Minola's Place	10	Sheldon	21	7	52	0	80
Positive Steps, Inc.	25	Spring	110	48	96	7	261
Roo Agency	11	Spring Branch	70	210	185	7	472
Sandy Brook	37	Stafford	0	2	- 1	<b>1</b> 0	4
Shiloh Treatment Center	10	Tomball	9	15	79	0	103
Tejas Home for Youth	18	Waller	3	0	23	0	26
TMG/Hays County Juvenile Center	19	Pearland	1	4	4	O	9
Waymaker	12	Private/Parochial	469	299	347	7	1,122
		College/University	27	20	25	5	77
Total number of youth placed	509*	Out of County	171	120	243	19	553
(Females 347, Males 162)		H C Education Dep	t 73	59	69	0	201
		JJAEP	309	424	149	16	898
'This does not include the Harris County Village, Burnett-Bayland Home, Burnett Reception Center or the Delta Boot Can	-Bayland	Juvenile Board Charter School	615	478	232	8	1,333
15)	E.	Not Available			37		6,182
		Total	5,829	5,089	4,546	227	21,873

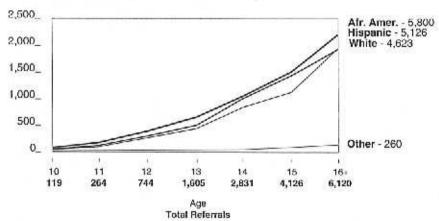
# Juvenile Forensic Unit MHMRA of Harris County Evaluations

Psychological Screenings 1022
Full Psychological Evaluations 399
Psychiatric Evaluations 305

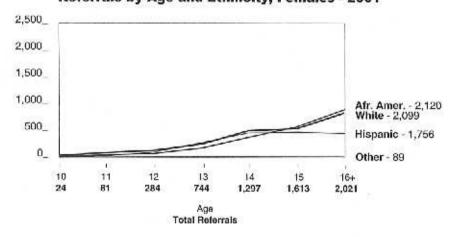
Total Evaluations 1,726

In addition to the above assessments, the MHMRA Juvenile Justice Department provided mental health services in all of the juvenile probation county institutions.

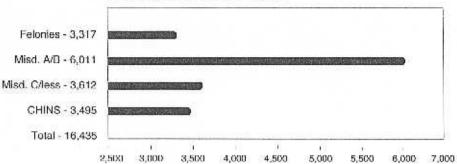
# Referrals by Age and Ethnicity, Males - 2001



# Referrals by Age and Ethnicity, Females - 2001



# Severity of Offense - 2001



# Most Serious Offense Per Referral, 1999 - 2001

1999 - 2001			
	1999	2000	2001
Murder	15	17	13
Arson	43	42	42
Assault - Felony	282	273	296
Misd A/B	950	894	929
Misd C	1,384	2,077	1,364
Sexual Assault	109	94	101
Robbery	242	284	243
Burglary	879	896	946
Theft - Felony	63	64	74
Misd A/B	1,721	1,610	1,636
Misd C	273	222	98
Auto Theft	57	62	85
Unauth, Use of a Motor	340	296	382
Vehicle			
Drugs - Felony	599	550	644
Misd A/B	1,189	1,204	1,428
Misd C	125	124	53
Inhalants	13	30	13
Alcohol Misd B	3	11	21
Alcohol Misd C	12	14	5
Other - Felony	405	340	478
Misd A/B	2,048	2,127	1,997
Misd C	2	2	1
Disorderly Conduct	91	87	68
City Ordinance Violation	s 1,260	920	488
Violation of Probation	1,329	1,295	1,421
Runaway* (CHINS)	4,511	4,261	3,260
Other* (CHINS) Offense	318	259	235
TYC Runaways	219	151	114
Administrative Actions	6,159	6,127	5,438
Total	24,641	24,335	21,873

<sup>\*</sup> Children in need of supervision (status offenses)

# Referral Source, 2001

Baytown Police Department	398
Constable's Office	1,120
Harris County Sheriff's Department	2,642
Houston Police Department	6,335
Juvenile Probation Officers	3,794
Pasadena Police Department	465
Schools	4,966
Other	2,153
Total	21,873

# Court Activity, 2001

Disposition	
Certification	71
Certification Denied	2
CPS involvement	72
Deferred Prosecution	1,975
Dismissed	2,914
Early termination of probation	80
Mental health	1
Not found CHINS or delinquent	t 17
Passed	628
Passed-Writ issued	437
Probation*	7,119
Probation / Restitution *	525
SOS/ISP	263
TYC	485
Determinate sentencing	56
Bound over to TDC	8
Other	550
	15,203

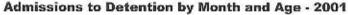
<sup>\*</sup> Includes changes of custody

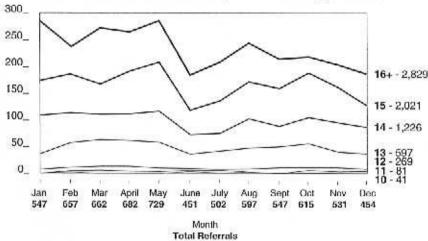
### Institutions Division

The Institutions Division of the department consists of the West Dallas Juvenile Detention Center, the Westside Juvenile Detention Center, the Burnett-Bayland Reception Center, the Burnett-Bayland Home, the Delta Boot Camp and the Harris County Youth Village. The Division continues to use the DART system of structural supervision and programming from campus to campus. DART stresses personal accountability through Discipline, Accountability, Redirection and Transition.

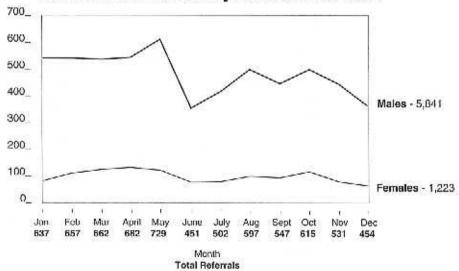
# Juvenile Detention Center

The Juvenile Detention Center is a secure residential facility for juveniles requiring a restricted environment while awaiting court action. The Intake Screening staff is responsible for assessing immediate circumstances and deciding if a youth is to be detained or released. When thought to present a threat to self or to the community or is likely to run away and not return for a court appearance, the youth will be held in detention.





# Admissions to Detention by Month and Sex - 2001



# Most Serious offense Per Admission to Detention 1999-2001

	1999	2000	2001		1999	2000	2001
Murder	8	11	10	Inhalants	15	20	11
Arson	23	25	33	Alcohol Misd A/B	0	1	14
Assault				Alcohol Misd C	9	5	1
Felony	251	254	319	Other			
Misd A/B	554	524	535	Felony	237	182	276
Misd C	69	56	38	Misd A/B	978	897	995
Sexual Assault	117	94	96	Disorderly Conduct	67	77	51
Robbery	194	252	267	City Ordinance	80	52	50
Burglary	461	452	545	Violation of Probation	865	747	901
Theft				Runaway* (CHINS)	175	145	156
Felony	35	45	57	Other* (CHINS) Offense	9	11	12
Misd A/B	585	555	583	TYC Runaways	386	284	223
Misd C	17	31	14	Administrative Actions	603	611	507
Auto Theft	50	46	68				
Unauth, use of Motor Veh.	265	225	360	Total	6,948	6,411	7,064
Drugs				*Children in need of super	vision (st	atus oller	ises)
Felony	394	341	416				10001
Misd A/B	491	456	516				
Misd C	10	12	10				

The Detention Center also houses youth awaiting transfer to the Burnett-Bayland Reception Center, private placement or TYC.

The Center features private sleeping rooms, multi-purpose activity rooms, gymnasiums, outdoor recreation areas, visitation and counseling areas, facilities for medical, dental, psychological and social services, a separate intake section and a courtroom. Advanced monitoring systems and architectural designs provide security and safety without bars.

During their stay, juveniles undergo physical and psychological assessments, short-term therapy and crisis intervention. Recreation specialists provide daily physical education activities. Highly trained staff and volunteers work to promote feelings of self-worth, to establish trust and teach juveniles to relate to others through structured unit activities. A maximum of 50 juveniles can be held at the Westside Detention Center to avoid crowding at West Dallas. Detention hearings by teleconference avoid unnecessary transporting. The Harris County Juvenile Justice Charter School provides an educational program which focuses on areas in which these students are generally deficient such as remedial reading, language and math skills. Volunteers and other agencies provide additional services including health awareness, self-esteem workshops, tutoring and individual visitation. In 2001, 7,064 juveniles were referred to the Detention Center.

# Burnett-Bayland Reception Center

The Burnett-Bayland Reception Center (BBRC) is a secure placement constructed on the Burnett-Bayland grounds which opened in 1998 with a state grant provided by the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission and supplemented by Harris County funds. Each juvenile offender to be placed in a county residential facility is first sent there to be carefully evaluated. In 2001, assessments were completed for 1,050 youth who were then routed to other county campuses, private placement, TYC and, in some cases, placed on regular proba-

tion. In addition to the general population programming, BBRC offers specialized treatment components: the sexual offender program, substance abuse treatment made possible by a federal grant and the Psychiatric Stabilization Unit. A six-week cannabis-dependent program is now available to the general population of BBRC. Volunteers from Special Youth Services and Crossroads bring guest speakers, tutors, religious services, art and other programs to BBRC. The Juvenile Justice Charter School provides educational classes at the Burnett-Bayland Reception Center.

### Burnett-Bayland Home

The court places delinquent youth who do not require secure confinement at the Burnett-Bayland Home (BBH). In 2001, 333 young men lived in cottages on the 40-acre park campus. Residents attend on-campus classes taught by the Juvenile Justice Charter School. Those attending GED classes or extra-curricular activities may go off campus. Family visitation is encouraged and parents participate in regular educational meetings. Programs such as drug and alcohol counseling, therapy and peer mediation play a significant role in the rehabilitation of the residents. Privately funded activities such as the disc golf course, art, a photography program and a print shop bring yet another learning dimension to the residents. Three basketball teams coached by dedicated volunteers and staff allow residents to compete with private schools in the community. The Rotary Club of Houston continued its generous support and conduct a weekly tutoring program. The Harris County Sheriff's Department's Law Enforcement Against Delinquency (LEAD) program recruits volunteer deputies who act as mentors while the probationers are at BBH and after they return home. Residents also participate in a summer Boy Scout program and the Texas Department of Criminal Justice Outreach program.

# Harris County Youth Village

The Youth Village lakefront campus located in the Clear Lake area provides educational, medical and therapeutic services as well as drug education and drug therapy for older teens who are 15 to 16 years of age. In 2001, 428 youth stayed at the Youth Village. The Youth Village's behavioral program targets personal responsibility, appropriate expression of anger, positive decision-making and leadership, and ultimately, self-management of one's own behavior. Student-led community governments meet weekly. The Youth Village Charter School offers a full academic and varied vocational curriculum, including concentration on GED preparation. In 2001, a record number of 49 students completed their GED exams. The Vocational Career Modules include plumbing and electrical apprenticeships, automotive service certifications and floor and wall ceramic tilling. Students also learn practical skills such as job hunting, household management and personal budgeting. Funded by Houston Endowment, Inc., the Swalm Foundation and others, the Chrysalis Dance Company teaches dance technique and improvisation at the Youth Village which builds self-esteem and respect for others. In November, citizens from Taylor Lake Village, El Lago, Seabrook and Nassau Bay initiated a yearlong program to give the students monetary gift certificates for their hard work and success in academic, vocational and behavioral programs.

# Delta Boot Camp

The Delta Boot Camp provides a residential correctional program for adjudicated males, ages 14 to 16, who have been determined by the court to need a discipline-oriented program. The boot camp facility in west Harris County opened in 1999, and accommodates 144 young men. During the year 2001, 505 young men participated in the program. The trainees take part in a structured basic training program made up of four

phases which are discipline, accountability, redirection and transition. The goal of the Delta Boot Camp is to provide a successful reintegration into the community and family. Educational classes are provided by teachers from the Juvenile Justice Charler School as well as counseling, anger management, mental health services and physical training. Following their stay at the boot camp, the trainees return home and attend school with intensive supervision by JPOs from CUPS 7, a special Field Services aftercare unit. They also participate in community service projects, drug testing and counseling sessions.

# **Probation Field Services Division**

Most juveniles who go through the court system remain at home under probation supervision. The time period is usually one year but the courts may lengthen probation time to age 18. Probation supervision and rehabilitative services for youth and their families are provided by the Field Services Division from nine offices located throughout Harris County. During 2001, an average of 4,926 juveniles was under supervision by the Field Services Division each month.

When a juvenile has been declared delinquent, the court sets rules of probation. General rules include completing community service restitution hours, reporting change of address, attending school or holding a job, not leaving the county without the probation officer's permission, curfew hours, restrictions on motor vehicle use and submitting to drug testing upon request. In addition, monetary restitution may be required and the juvenile may be referred to counseling and educational programs.

The Absconders Locator program finds youth who fail to appear in court or who have left a court-ordered placement facility without permission. The Gang Supervision Caseload program focuses on the sharing of information about gang members. A specially trained team of juvenile probation officers rides along in patrol cars at times. Information about juvenile offenders is made available to law enforcement officers whose assistance is often needed in the community to apprehend juveniles. Project Spotlight operating in the Alief area consists of three teams of juvenile, adult and law enforcement officers working together to prevent recidivism of offenders assigned by the courts. Additional funding from the state allowed the program to expand further with gang prevention initiatives such as education and counseling.

# Intensive Supervision

The Intensive Supervision Program (ISP) is intended to divert high-risk youth from the state institutions of the Texas Youth Commission and redirect their lives through a program of close supervision and rehabilitation. Each ISP participant must have adequate supervision by parents or significant adults at home. After placement in the program by the courts, clients are contacted daily by a probation officer. This program is administered by juvenile probation officers and human service professionals who work with trained volunteers, student interns and community and civic groups.

The In-Home Services program for girls allowed some female probationers to remain at home with 24-hour supervision instead of going to a more costly residential facility. Their "Baby, Think It Over" program with computerized infants is an excellent learning experience for girls.

The "Super Saturday" events demonstrate the flexibility and creativity of the ISP program. Probationers and parents meet with tutors, counselors and other service providers for special sessions and workshops. In 2001, an average of 541 juveniles received services in the ISP program each month.

# Field Services Programs for 2001

Program	Description
Death or Adulthood	DOA allows certain at-risk juveniles to visit the county morgue to create awareness of the consequence of gang activity and drug use.
Drug Free Youth Program	Certified alcohol and drug abuse counselors are stationed in all satellite offices by the Houston Council on Alcohol and Drugs to intervene with those who have substance abuse problems.
Educational Workshops	Workshops for youths and families on various topics.
Early Termination	A voluntary program that may shorten probationary periods.
MADD Victim Impact Panel	Workshops for probationers and families intended to show the real consequences of drinking and driving presented by Mothers Against Drunk Driving.
Peer Pressure Workshops	Workshops presented by the Houston Police Department on positive and negative effects of peer pressure.
Prohibited Weapons Workshops	Houston Police Department workshops which teach consequences of possession of illegal weapons.
Restitution	Community service work by probationers at sites throughout the county arranged by Field Services coordinators. Financial restitution is also received.
TDCJ Outreach Outreach	Youth visit the Institutional Division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice in Sugar Land and Dayton to learn the realities of prison life. Inmates with Operation Kick-it visit probation units with their drug prevention program.
Therapeutic Counseling	Professional, licensed therapists provide counseling to probationers and their families.
Vision Care	University of Houston, School of Optometry screens and examines youth providing

Educational specialists advocate for juveniles to keep them in school, to reinstate

them if expelled or to arrange completion of GED requirements and career plan-

glasses and treatment.

ning.

Wings

The CUPS 7 Aftercare Intensive Supervision unit provides intensive supervision for youth leaving all county institutions during the weeks following release from structured institutional life. This unit supervised an average of 619 juveniles each month in 2001. Clients participate in Saturday programs, drug testing, electronic monitoring, parent-education workshops and Reality Orientation Physical Experiences (ROPES) courses. Project 17 officers work to interest the older probationers in careers and prepare them for independent living. CUPS 7 is the home of the new Mental Health Services and Supervision Unit (MHSS) funded by TJPC and the Texas Council on the Mentally Impaired. Four teams consisting of a juvenile probation officer and a mental health professional work with special caseloads of youth with mental problems. In addition, a psychiatrist is assigned to the unit for crisis intervention and medication management.

The Community Service Restitution Program arranges work sites for youth in all divisions of the department including those from intake court services referred for lesser offenses. In 2001, 8,928 youth worked 123,670 hours at sites around the county including cemeteries, vacant lots and non-profit agencies. In 2001, the courts ordered 508 juvenile offenders to pay \$426,972 to victims. The department collected \$90,536 in financial restitution with collection continuing from cases heard in the latter part of 2001. Financial restitution of more than a million dollars has been collected since 1993.

# Administrative Services Division

The Administrative Services Division has a diverse set of responsibilities including monitoring legislation and legal issues, acquiring grants for special programs and then managing and evaluating them. The management information systems are also handled by this division. The Research Unit provides information resources for management to use in planning and statistical analysis. It also handles data requests made by federal, state and local agencies, universities, funding sources and the media.

### Technology and Systems Development

In concert with JIMS (Justice Information Management System) and CTC (Central Technology Center) the Technology and Systems Development Unit maintains the system that tracks juveniles, their activities and the docketing of their cases for court. The various applications and Internet access are provided through a network servicing the main building and 16 outlying offices and institutions. Maintenance and upgrades of personal computers and printers and other peripheral hardware are supplied through this division.

Information Systems is responsible for the planning, implementation, maintenance and training for in-house applications as well as any mandated by the legislature. A variety of subsystems that provide supplemental automation to a diverse user base has been developed. A web-based application is being developed by this unit intended to integrate current mainframe applications and allow exchange of information with other Harris County agencies that serve youth.

# Grants and Alternative Funding

During the year 2001, the department acquired over \$2,200,000 through alternative funding endeavors.

Grants from federal and state government, foundations, and private organizations supplemented the department budget and assisted in creating innovative rehabilitative programs as well as continuing well-

established programs and services. The department received funding to strengthen the services offered brough the Gang Task Force Unit. In addition to providing funds to increase the supervision of probationers on the gang caseload, services were expanded to include counseling and educational workshops to nongang probationers as a preventative measure. Another new program funded through alternative funding was Project Spotlight, which provides intensive supervision services to youth in the Alief area. Programs maintained through grants included the Private Residential Placement Program, In-Home Services for Girls, Safe Schools/Healthy Students and Residential Substance Abuse Treatment

### **Financial Services Division**

The Budget Office oversees the fiscal operations of the department including preparation and management of the annual budget, and regulates receipts and expenditures. The Supportive Services Unit, also supervised by the Financial Division, maintains office inventories of general supplies and provides mail, courier and print shop services.

In 2001, the department's expenditures were \$56,635,900. The funds were received from four primary sources: Harris County Commissioners' Court, Texas Juvenile Probation Commission, the Criminal Justice Division of the Governor's Office and grants from private sources.

# 2001 Expenditures

Harris County Commissioners' Court	\$	44,220,128
Texas Juvenile Probation Commission		9,614,420
State Aid Grants to Counties		3,174,284
Community Corrections Funding		4,000,113
Operating Cost for Reception Center		1,234,204
Delta Boot Camp		1,016,740
Challenge Grant (Residential Services)	Ĺ	90,386
In-House Services Program		76,708
Placement Study		1,490
TCOMI (Texas Council on Offenders with M Impairments)	iental	20,495
Criminal Justice Division of Governor's Office	e	2,046,731
Project Spotlight		522,253
Residential Substance Abuse Grant		702,276
Purchase of Services Grant		122,642
Juvenile Accountability Incentive Grant	t	699,560
Other Funding Sources		754,621
Title IV-E Federal Reimbursement		299,510
Brown Foundation (Various Programs)		107,801
Hogg Foundation Residential Sex Offe	nder	75,443
HISD Funded/Houston Safe Schools		97,298
Community Development Grant/Sex Of	ffenders	61,844
JJAEP Probation Officer Grant		100,513
Junior League of Houston, Inc.		5,000
Other		7,212
Total	S	56,635,900
025 G		

Figures shown are actual expenditures for the period of January 1, 2001 through December, 31,2001

### **Human Resources Division**

### Personnel

The Personnel Unit provides staffing for the department and ensures that county hiring guidelines are followed throughout the agency. This Unit posts available positions, processes employment applications, interviews applicants and supervises screening and hiring. The Unit assists staff in securing employee benefits, monitors and processes salary changes and interacts with the county budget and payroll offices to maintain accurate salary and position control information. It also monitors grievance proceedings and mediates minor disputes. The annual Performance Review is administered throughout the department resulting in a detailed method for managers to measure employee work performance throughout the year. Employment records are maintained by this unit for all department staff which numbered 867 at the close of 2001.

# Payroll

The Payroll Unit assists all staff in securing employee benefits for all employees of this department. This includes signing new employees, medical and retirement benefits/changes, monitoring and processing of salary changes, and monitoring of all other employee benefits. The Unit also interacts with the county budget and payroll offices to maintain accurate salary and position control information.

# Training and Staff Development Unit

The Training and Staff Development Unit develops in-service training to enhance employee skills and meet the state training standards. Juvenile probation officers are required to attend 40 hours of accredited instruction per year to maintain state certification, with 16 hours required for support staff. The Training Unit also arranges special training for institutional officers, secretaries, computer personnel, kitchen staff and administrators. Four years ago, an in-house academy for new employees was developed using juvenile probation officers who completed specific training to become certified Resource Training Officers (RTO). Fourteen RTOs have completed curriculum writing training for advanced classes for staff. In 2001, over 6,000 training hours were earned during 400 workshops on topics such as juvenile crime prevention, legal liabilities, professional ethics, verbal intervention techniques, the role of the probation officer, case planning/management, officer safety, and interagency collaboration. This Unit also coordinates the Public Speakers' Bureau for community outreach.

# Accreditation Procedures

The Accreditation Unit coordinates the development of policies and procedures in order to meet both national and state standards. The American Correctional Association (ACA) audits the Juvenile Detention Center every three years. The Texas Juvenile Probation Commission (TJPC) audits the Juvenile Probation Department annually as well as the Juvenile Detention Center, Burnett-Bayland Reception Center and the Delta Boot Camp. TJPC audits juvenile case files, employee training records, documentation files and other information. The Accreditation Manager conducts random audits throughout the department to ensure compliance.

### Public Information Office

The Public Information Office increases public understanding of juvenile corrections and builds community support for the agency's mission through education. The office is responsible for providing information to the news media, other agencies, public officials, academic institutions and interested citizens. The office produces the annual report, the on-line newsletter Paradigm, and other publications to maximize public and media access to the juvenile justice system. The Dare to Dream program, coordinated by the Public Information Office, involves juvenile probation officers working with NASA astronauts in selected schools to motivate at-risk students and educate them about juvenile law.

# Crossroads: Community Partnership for Youth, Inc.

Crossroads: Community Partnership for Youth, Inc., a non-profit United Way agency, carefully recruits, screens and trains volunteers and interns for the department. Crossroads integrates the community with the agency, a partnership that allows the department to meet goals of providing quality services to redirect the lives of youth. In 2001, 490 volunteers and interns donated 53,224 hours in recreational, educational, mentoring, religious and community service programs for youth on probation or in institutions. With volunteer work valued at \$15.39 per hour, the department has received \$819,117 in assistance from community volunteers and interns.

Included in the grand total are volunteers working in specific areas of the department. Eighteen volunteers from Junior League of Houston, Inc. donated 869 hours counseling children and families continuing a remarkable partnership of almost 35 years with the department. In addition, Junior League contributed \$5000 in 2001 for specific departmental needs. Seventy-five dedicated volunteers with Special Youth Services donated 12,190 hours and 75 volunteers with Youth Exchange worked 2,933 hours. Often requested by the courts, 268 Crossroads volunteers served 28,270 hours as mentors and role models for youth. Judge Kent Ellis of the 315th District Court serves as a member of the Crossroads Board.

# Student Interns

A total of 41 students from area colleges and universities worked 8,258 hours in the department's student intern program last year. They served throughout the agency in a variety of positions, receiving training and experience in juvenile corrections.

# Juvenile Justice Education Programs

Under the authority of the Juvenile Board, the Harris County Community and Juvenile Justice Education Department provides educational programs for every expelled student and delinquent youth placed in a county-operated juvenile institution.

Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (JJAEP) Students attending the JJAEP have been expelled from a Harris County public school district for criminal activity or serious misbehavior while at school. The JJAEP focuses on individualized academic growth and behavioral improvement. Juvenile proba-

tion officers are located at the school to assist with the students' probation-related requirements and to provide mentoring, counseling, and prevention-related services. The JJAEP is funded by the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission, local school districts and state and federal grants. The program contributes to a safer community by providing a structured academic environment for students who otherwise would be on the streets. Since the 1996-97 school year, the JJAEP has served over 4,300 students with 1,253 students attending during the 2000-2001 school year.

Juvenile Justice Charter School (JJCS) Beginning in 1998, all juveniles placed by the courts in detention and residential facilities are provided educational services under one comprehensive academic program, the Harris County Juvenile Justice Charter School. The JJCS focuses on academic, vocational and social skills. Funded by the Texas Education Agency and federal grants, the JJCS operates year-round so students can continuously improve their educational skills.

# Credits

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